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INTER		IONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE POTTER POTTOS 783					
TITI E		PCT/EP97/05783 20 October 1997 21 October 1996 NVENTION					
		LONAL ANTIBODIES AGAINST THE EPITOPE YPYDVPDYA, A PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE					
		ND THEIR USE 09/284787					
APPLI	CAN	(S) FOR DO/EQ/US 3-00					
		EMRICH, Matthias HINZPETER and Michael GROL					
Appli	cant h	nerewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:					
1.	×	This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.					
2.		This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.					
3.	×						
		This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).					
4.	\boxtimes	A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.					
5.	×	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))					
Len		a. \(\times \) is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).					
		b. has been transmitted by the International Bureau.					
	KZ1	c. \square is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).					
6. 7.	×	A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).					
	X	A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).					
8.		Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))					
		a. are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).					
		b. have been transmitted by the International Bureau.					
		c. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.					
□ 9.		d. have not been made and will not be made.					
10.	×	A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).					
110.	×	An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).					
12.		A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409). A translation of the appreces to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 26					
#	L	A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).					
Ite	ems 1	3 to 18 below concern document(s) or information included:					
13.		An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.					
14.		An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.					
15.	\boxtimes	A FIRST preliminary amendment.					
		A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.					
16.		A substitute specification.					
17.		A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.					
18.	☒	Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail					
19.	×	Other items or information:					
		Sequence Listing in German (3pp);					
	General Appointment of Representative for U.S. Patent and Patent Application (1pp); and Return postcard.						
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	1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.							
	SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Marilyn L. Amick Marilyn L. Amick							
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A. The invention disclosed was r	ot made in the United S	tates.				
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III. A Response to an Invitation from the	he RO/US. The followi	ng document(s) i	s (are) enclosed:			
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A. A Request for An Extension	of Time to File a Respo	nse				
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09/284787 511 TWP 20 APR 1999

Attorney Docket No. BMID9913US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Thomas EMRICH, et al.

Application No.: To Be Assigned

Group No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: April 20, 1999

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: Monoclonal Antibodies Against The Epitope YPYDVPDYA, A Process For

Producing The Same And Their Use

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the captioned application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following.

In the Claims

Cancel claims 1-9.

Add new claims 10-17 as follows:

- 10. A monoclonal antibody against the epitope YPYDVPDYA, said antibody being derived from the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus, or fragments thereof, and having an affinity of $> 10^8 \, \text{M}^{-1}$.
- 11. A monoclonal antibody against the epitope YPYDVPDYA, said antibody being derived from the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus, or fragments thereof, and having an affinity of 10⁹ 10¹⁰ M⁻¹.

- 12. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats, said Lou/C rats having been immunized with a haemagglutinin peptide.
- 13. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats, said Lou/C rats having been immunized with a haemagglutinin peptide, wherein said immunization is carried out with a haemagglutinin peptide coupled to keyhole limpet haemocyanin.
- 14. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridoma R 3A12 deposited at the "Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen" under the No. DSM ACC2286 (08.10.1996).
- 15. A method for the production of a monoclonal antibody against the epitope YPYDVPDYA comprising:
 - (a) synthesizing a haemagglutinin peptide,
 - (b) immunizing a small mammal with said peptide,
 - (c) isolating B lymphocytes from the spleen of said mammal and fusing said lymphocytes with mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells to form clones,
 - (d) selecting clones formed in step (c) which bind to a haemagglutinin peptide and to a haemagglutinin fusion protein, and
 - (e) selecting a clone with a high affinity from those selected in step (d) and establishing said clone as a hybrid cell line.

- The method of claim 6, wherein said haemagglutinin peptide is selected from the group consisting of acetyl-**YPYDVPDYA**GSGSK (ε-biotinoyl) amide and biotinoyl-ε-Aca-SGSG**YPYDVPDYA** amide.
- 17. The method of claim 6, wherein said haemagglutinin fusion protein is haemagglutinin-tagged glutathione-S-transferase.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 20, 1999

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Marilyn L. Amick, Reg. No. 30,444

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DECLARATION

I, Sabine Frieda Katharina Town, declare that I am a citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany, residing at Waldstraße 45, 82386 Oberhausen, Federal Republic of Germany, that I am fluent in German and English, that I am a competent translator from German into English and that the attached is a true and accurate translation made by me into the English language of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP97/05783.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing declaration, this fourth day of March 1999.

Sabine F.K. Town

Jan Jan

Monoclonal antibodies against the epitope YPYDVPDYA, a process for their production and their use

The invention concerns monoclonal antibodies against the epitope YPYDVPDYA which is derived from the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus and are suitable for the detection and isolation of native haemagglutinin from the human influenza virus, of modified haemagglutinin or of haemagglutinin fusion proteins and have an affinity of $> 10^8 \, \mathrm{M}^{-1}$, in particular of 10^9 to $10^{10} \, \mathrm{M}^{-1}$.

Haemagglutinins are substances - usually glycoproteins - which have the ability to agglutinate erythrocytes. They occur among others as components of viruses such as e.g. in myxoviruses or pox viruses. The haemagglutinin (HA) of the influenza virus which is a membrane-coated virus with a (-) RNA genome is of particular importance. The influenza haemagglutinin is a transmembrane surface antigen which protrudes from the spherical lipid coat in the form of spikes which can be seen in electron-microscopic pictures. The HA spikes are trimers, the monomers of which are composed of two polypeptide chains, HA1 (46,000-65,000 D) and HA2 (21,000-30,000 D). The haemagglutinin in the membrane of the influenza virus enables the virus to penetrate into susceptible host cells e.g. of the respiratory tract.

It is known that antibodies against haemagglutinin are effective inhibitors of a viral infection. However, the specific affinity of the antibody does not generally

apply to the whole macromolecular protein but only to a special epitope.

Nowadays the technique of epitope tagging, i.e. the attachment of an epitope to a protein by molecular biological techniques, is a method that is frequently used to analyse proteins and in principle is independent of the epitope used. In this method the primary sequence of an arbitrary protein is extended by a few amino acids with the aid of recombinant techniques. The decisive factor is only the presence of a specific and high affinity antibody with a known recognition sequence. Using antibodies that are specifically directed against the extended part of the protein, this method enables for example the analysis of the molecular weight of the protein, its cellular location, post-translational modifications or interactions with other factors without requiring the presence of protein-specific antibodies.

An advantage of viral epitopes compared to cellular epitopes is that these protein sequences do not usually occur in bacterial and eukaryotic proteins and thus no cross-reactions would be expected in bacterial or cellular systems.

A viral epitope frequently described in the literature that is used for such analyses is derived from the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus. This epitope has the amino acid sequence YPYDVPDYA (98 - 106) (Field, J. et al. (1988), Mol. Cell. Biol. Vol. 8, No. 5, 2159-2165 and Wilson et al., Cell 37, 767 - 778, (1984)). Monoclonal antibodies (mAB) against this epitope have been described and are available such as for example the mAB 12CA5 (P.A. Kolodziej and Young,

 $A_{i} = 1$

R.A., Meth. Enzymol. (1991), Vol. 194, 508-519; Chen, Y.-T. et al. (1993), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., Vol. 90, 6508-6512)) and the anti-HA-BabCo.

However, a disadvantage of these antibodies is that their affinity is not high enough and therefore the epitope-specific antibodies have to be used in a high concentration for a sensitive detection of the corresponding fusion proteins which can lead to unspecific interactions which for example become apparent as cross-reactions in a Western blot (cf. Chen et al., p. 6510).

The inadequate affinity also leads to a lower sensitivity of the known anti-HA mAB.

Therefore the object of the invention was to provide monoclonal antibodies against the viral epitope YPYDVPDYA which have a higher affinity and which are thus suitable for highly sensitive haemagglutinin tests or HA fusion protein tests and give reproducible results.

According to the invention monoclonal antibodies are provided which recognize the epitope having the amino acid sequence YPYDVPDYA (98 - 106) of the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus as well as corresponding fragments thereof and have an affinity of $> 10^8 \ M^{-1}$, in particular of 10^9 to $10^{10} \ M^{-1}$. In this connection epitope fragments are understood in particular as those amino acid sequences which correspond to at least 70 % of the sequence YPYDVPDYA or are shortened by at least one to two terminal amino acids.

In order to produce the monoclonal antibodies, small mammals, preferably rats, such as e.g. Lou/C rats or mice such as e.g. BalbC mice or rabbits are immunized with a HA peptide synthesized by standard methods. An uncoupled HA peptide or a HA peptide which is optionally coupled N-terminally or C-terminally to a carrier protein or a HA fusion protein is used as the antigen. Keyhole limpet haemocyanin (KLH) or bovine serum albumin (BSA) were preferably used as carrier proteins. Subsequently B lymphocytes were isolated from the spleen of the animals and immortalized by cell fusion with suitable myeloma cells or by other known methods such as e.g. by means of oncogenes (Jonak, Z.L. et.al., (1988) Adv. Drug Rev. 2:207-228) or in an electrical field (Zimmermann, U. (1982), Biochim. Biophys. Acta 694:227-277). The cell fusion was preferably carried out according to the invention with spleen cells of Lou/C rats and myeloma cells from the mouse line P3x63-Aq8,653 (Kearney, J.F. et al (1979), J. Immunol. 123, 1548-1550).

In this process the lymphocytes and the myeloma cells are fused by known methods, in particular by polyethylene glycol fusion (PEG), virus fusion or electrofusion and the hybrid cells (cell clones) that are formed are also selected by known methods such as e.g. by using selection media.

Thus for example positive clones were firstly tested with HA peptides and then with HA fusion proteins. In a first screen a biotinylated HA peptide e.g. Bio-C-HA (acetyl-YPYDVPDYAGSGSK (&-biotinoyl)-amide) or Bio-N-HA (biotinoyl-&-Aca-SGSGYPYDVPDYA-amide) was used and a HA-tagged glutathione-S-transferase (GST) was used in a second screen. Clones that were again positive were

subsequently examined with regard to their affinity with the aid of plasmon resonance in a BiaCore system and they were selected.

The hybrid cells were cloned, cultured and multiplied according to known methods and optionally stored in liquid nitrogen.

The cell lines R 3F10, R 3A12 and R 6D12 were established as the most active cell clones with a stable antibody production. The hybridoma R 3A12 was deposited on the 08.10.1996 at the "Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen (DSMZ)", Mascheroder Weg 1b, 38124 Braunschweig under the number DSM ACC2286.

For the antibody isolation the hybrid cells were further propagated in cell culture or optionally in vivo by transplantation as ascites tumours. The mABs were isolated from the cell culture supernatants or optionally from the ascites fluid of the tumour-carrying experimental animals.

The mAB produced in high concentration by the hybrid cells which are characterized by an excellent specificity and binding strength for the YPYDVPDYA epitope of the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus or for corresponding epitope fragments are obtained according to the invention. They enable the highly sensitive detection and isolation of haemagglutinin as well as of proteins to which the HA epitope YPYDVPDYA has been attached.

The affinity of the mAB according to the invention is $> 10^8$ M⁻¹. Thus the affinity of the mAB 3F10 at 10^{10} M⁻¹

is approximately 30-fold higher than that of the known antibodies 12CA5 (10⁸ M⁻¹) and BabCo (10⁷ M⁻¹). The affinity of the mABs 3A12 and 6D12 according to the invention is 10⁹ M⁻¹ and is thus also higher than that of the known antibodies. The mABs according to the invention can be used in much lower concentrations and cross-reactions can be almost completely ruled out. They enable an improved sensitivity of the detection. It has turned out that they recognize native HA of the influenza virus, modified HA as well as HA fusion proteins. Hence they can be used very well for the determination of proteins in known detection reactions such as e.g. a solid phase two-side binding test.

Figure legends

Figure 1:

Affinities of the mABs according to the invention compared to the mAB 12CA5 and anti-HA BabCo.

Figure 2:

Immunoblot analysis of a HA-modified glutathione-S-transferase protein with a mAB (clone 3F10) according to the invention and anti-HA of the prior art (clone 12CA5); a) detection with anti-rat-peroxidase, b) anti-rat biotin/streptavidin-peroxidase.

Figure 3:

Immunoblot analysis of a HA-modified glutathione-S-transferase protein with a mAB (clone 3F10) according to the invention and anti-HA of the prior art (clone 12CA5).

Figure 4:

Immunoblot analysis of a HA-modified glutathione-S-transferase protein with enzyme (peroxidase) conjugates of an antibody according to the invention (clone 3F10) and an antibody of the prior art (clone 12CA5).

Figure 5:

Immunoprecipitation of a HA-modified green fluorescent (GFP-HA) protein with a mAB (clone 3F10) according to the invention and anti-HA of the prior art (clone 12CA5).

Subsequently the invention is further elucidated by the following examples of use.

Example 1:

Production of clones R 3F10, R 3A12 and R 6D12

HA peptide preparation

The following peptides were synthesized:
Bio-C-HA (acetyl-YPYDVPDYAGSGSK (\varepsilon-biotinoyl)-amide)
Bio-N-HA (biotinoyl-\varepsilon-Aca-SGSGYPYDVPDYA-amide)
KLH-MPS-CUZU-HA-C
KLH-MPS-CUSU-HA-N

Immunization of small mammals

Lou/C rats were immunized intraperitoneally with KLH-coupled HA peptide according to the following scheme:

For the primary immunization the animals were injected with 50 μl KLH-coupled HA peptide in complete Freund's adjuvant.

Further immunizations were carried out with 50 μg KLH-coupled HA peptide in incomplete Freund's adjuvant.

Fusion

The subsequent fusion of the spleen cells of the Lou/C rats was carried out using mouse P3x63-Ag8,653 in the presence of PEG according to Kremmer et al (1990) Hybridoma 9, 309-317.

Selecting the clones

Screening scheme:

1st Screen

- An SA-coated microtitre plate (MTP) was coated with 1 μ g/ml Bio-C-HA or Bio-N-HA,
- hybridoma supernatants were used undiluted and added to the coated MTP,
- the bound antibodies were detected with the aid of anti-rat-POD conjugate/TMB substrate.

2nd Screen

- A maxisorb MTP was coated with HA-tagged GST (1 μ l/ml in carbonate buffer),
- the hybridoma supernatants selected in the 1st screen were again used undiluted and added to the coated MTP,
- the bound antibodies were detected with the aid of anti-rat-POD conjugate/TMB substrate.

3rd/4th Screen

BiaCore measurements were carried out with an analogous coating.

Result

5 clones with the highest affinity and the longest half-time of dissociation were selected with the aid of plasmon resonance in the BiaCore system. They were named R 3F10, R 3A12, R 6D12, R 4H10 and M5B9. The affinity was only slightly different depending on the biotinoylated position of the peptides (C-terminus or N-terminus cf. Fig. 1).

The clones R 3F10, R 3A12 and R 6D12 were established as cell lines. They exhibit a good growth and a stable antibody production, and the antibodies that are produced have a 10-fold to 100-fold higher affinity than the monoclonal antibodies of the prior art 12CA5 and anti-HA BabCo.

Fig. 1 shows the affinities of the mABs according to the invention compared to the mAB 12CA5 and anti-HA BabCo.

Example 2

<u>Determination of the affinity constants as well as of</u> the rate constants of association and dissociation of the antibodies that are produced

The affinity constants and rate constants of association and dissociation of the antibodies that were produced was determined with ${\sf BIAcore}^{\$}$ from the Pharmacia

Biosensor Company (BIA stands for Biospecific Interaction Analysis). The measurement principle is based on surface plasmon resonance. The measurement is carried out on a biosensor, the so-called sensor chip. The biotinylated peptide is coupled to the streptavidin coated sensor chip by means of a non-covalent, high affinity bond. A solution of the antibody to be examined is passed over the sensor chip in the process of which the antibody is bound to the immobilized peptide by means of non-covalent forces of interaction.

The binding of the individual components increases the mass density on the surface of the sensor chip which is converted by the instrument into a proportional measurement signal. The rate constants of association and dissociation and, derived therefrom, the affinity constants can be calculated from the change in the signal versus time, the sensorgram.

The antibody-peptide complexes can be detached again with simple agents without impairing the peptides bound to the surface so that additional binding experiments can be carried out on the same sensor chip under identical boundary conditions.

In order to couple the biotinylated peptides to the sensor chip (SA, Pharmacia Biosensor) a solution containing a concentration of 50 nmol/l in HBS (10 mmol/l HEPES, 150 mmol/l NaCl, 3.4 mmol/l EDTA, 0.05 % P20 pH 7.4) is passed over the sensor chip at a flow rate of 5 ml/min.

Afterwards the antibodies are added in HBS and binding to the peptides is monitored at a flow rate of 10

 μ l/min. The rate constants of association and dissociation of the binding of the antibody to the peptides are calculated from the sensorgrams with the aid of the manufacturer's software (BIA evaluation 2.1, Pharmacia Biosensor). The affinity constants are calculated from Ka = kon/koff. The values determined in this manner for the antibodies according to the invention to Bio-C-HA and BioN-HA as antigens are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1

anti-HA-mAB	Antigen	kon 1/mol*s	koff 1/s	Ka l/mol
Babco	Bio-C-HA	9.5 E +3	1.0 E -3	9.3 E +6
12CA5	Bio-C-HA	2.3 E +4	2.6 E -4	9.2 E +7
R3F10	Bio-C-HA	5.9 E +5	4.8 E -5	1.2 E +10
R3A12	Bio-C-HA	1.7 E +5	5.4 E -4	3.1 E +8
R6D12	Bio-C-HA	4.0 E +5	7.6 E -5	5.2 E +9
Babco	Bio-N-HA	1.2 E +4	5.0 E -4	2.3 E +7
12CA5	Bio-N-HA	5.3 E +4	2.1 E -4	2.6 E +8
R3F10	Bio-N-HA	6.2 E +5	9.1 E -5	6.8 E +9
R3A12	Bio-N-HA	7.7 E +5	1.4 E -4	5.7 E +9
R6D12	Bio-N-HA	5.9 E +5	1-2 E -4	5.1 E +9

Example 3

Comparative immunoblot analysis of a HA-modified protein using an antibody according to the invention and an antibody known from the prior art

3.1 Variation of the antigen

Glutathione-S-transferase modified with the HA epitope (GST-HA) was serially diluted to the stated amounts, separated by means of SDS polyacrylamide gel

electrophoresis and, after transfer onto a nylon membrane, reacted with the stated antibodies at the stated concentrations of the primary antibodies (1 μ g/ml clone 12CA5; 0.1 μ g/ml clone 3F10; Western blot analysis). Bound anti-HA antibodies were subsequently detected using anti-mouse-peroxidase (in the case of clone 12CA5), anti-rat-peroxidase (in the case of clone 3F10, a)) or anti-rat-biotin/streptavidin peroxidase (in the case of clone 3F10, b)) and by chemiluminescence detection.

SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis

8 x 7 cm gels with a thickness of 0.75 mm were used (BIO-RAD, Mini-Protean IITM). For a 15 % gel, 6 ml separation gel solution (1 x) was poured between the plates. The top edge of the separation gel was carefully covered with a layer of 1 ml water. After 30 min polymerisation, the water was removed and it was filled with 2 ml collection gel solution (1 x). The samples were mixed with 1 volume of two-fold concentrated Laemmli buffer, incubated for 10 min at 60°C and pipetted into the rinsed gel pockets. The electrophoresis was carried out in mobile buffer at a current strength of ca. 15 mA.

Solutions:

4 x separation gel solution:

- 1.5 M Tris/HCl, pH 8.8
- 0.4 % SDS

4 x collection gel solution:

- 0.5 M Tris/HCl, pH 6.8
- 0.4 % SDS

2 x Laemmli buffer:

1.52 g Tris per 100 ml

10 ml glycerol pH 6.8 adjusted with 1 N HCl

2.0 q SDS

2.0 ml 2-mercaptoethanol

1 mg bromophenol blue

5 x mobile buffer:

15.1 g Tris per 1 l

72.0 g glycine

5.0 g SDS

Transfer onto nylon membrane

After the electrophoretic separation of the protein samples, a nylon filter corresponding to the gel size and moistened with H₂O was placed on the gel. To ensure better contact two correctly cut Whatman® 3 MM papers were placed on each of the two sides and the construction was clamped in a BIO-RAD electroblot apparatus. After filling the chamber with transfer buffer, the proteins were transferred onto the membrane by applying a voltage of 70 V (current strength, I=250-350 mA) for 45 - 60 min while cooling on ice and stirring.

Solution:

transfer buffer: 25 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.3 192 mM glycine

Detection

After carefully removing the membrane, the filter was

incubated for 60 min at RT in PBS solution to which 1 % blocking reagent (PBS/PR; Boehringer Mannheim) had been added in order to saturate binding sites that are still free. It was washed twice for 10 min in PBS buffer containing 0.1 % Tween 20 (PBST) and reacted for 60 min at RT with the corresponding anti-HA antibody in the stated concentrations. After washing three times in PBST buffer (5 min each time, RT), the filters were incubated for a further 60 min at room temperature with an antispecies IgG-peroxidase conjugate (anti-rat-peroxidase, 20 mU/ml PBS/BR; anti-mouse-peroxidase, 40 mU/ml PBS/BR). It was washed again as described above and the filter membrane was incubated for 1 min in a 1:100 mixture of detection reagent A+B (Boehringer Mannheim) after removing the buffer with an absorbent cloth, and adhering reagent was removed. Subsequently an X-ray film was exposed for 1 - 10 min with the filters covered with a household foil.

Result

Using a ca. 10-fold lower antibody concentration, it is possible to detect a 30-fold lower amount of GST-HA using the antibodies according to the invention such as clone 3F10 compared to known antibodies such as clone 12CA5 (Fig. 2).

3.2 Variation of the concentration of the primary antibody

4 ng of the glutathione-S-transferase modified with the HA epitope (GST-HA) was separated in each lane by means of SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and, after transfer onto a nylon membrane, reacted with the stated

antibodies in the stated concentrations of the primary antibodies (clone 12CA5 and 3F10; 2.0 - 0.008 ng/ml). Bound anti-HA antibodies were subsequently detected using anti-mouse-peroxidase (in the case of clone 12CA5) and anti-rat-peroxidase (in the case of clone 3F10) and by chemiluminescence detection.

SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, transfer onto a nylon membrane and subsequent detection were carried out as described in example 3.1.

Result:

In the described experiment clone 12CA5 (prior art) becomes the limiting factor at an antibody concentration of ≤ 2000 ng/ml whereas at an antibody concentration of ca. 125 ng/ml signal saturation is observed with the clone 3F10 according to the invention (Fig. 3).

Comparable signals are obtained in the case of clone 3F10 at ca. 20-fold lower antibody concentrations.

Example 4

Comparable immunoblot analysis of a HA-modified protein using antibody conjugates

Glutathione-S-transferase modified with the HA epitope (GST-HA) was serially diluted to the stated amounts, separated by means of SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and, after transfer onto a nylon membrane, reacted with the aid of the stated antibody-peroxidase conjugates at the stated concentrations (100 ng/ml

(clone 12CA5); 20 mU/ml (clone 3F10)). Bound anti-HA antibodies were subsequently detected using chemiluminescence detection.

SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, transfer onto a nylon membrane and subsequent detection were carried out as described in example 3.1.

Result:

The detection limit in this system for the peroxidase conjugate of the clone 12CA5 (prior art) is ca. 1 ng GST-HA whereas 40 pg GST-HA can still be detected under the same conditions with the corresponding derivative of the clone 3F10 (Fig. 4).

Example 5

Comparative immunoprecipitation of a HA-modified protein

Green-fluorescent protein modified with the HA epitope (GFP-HA) was reacted with the stated amounts [in μ g] of anti-HA antibodies (clone 12CA5 and clone 3F10) and immunoprecipitated after adding protein-G-agarose. The precipitates obtained were solubilized, separated by means of SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and, after transfer onto a nylon membrane, detected with an anti-HA-peroxidase conjugate (clone 12CA5) and by chemiluminescence detection.

Immunoprecipitation

50 ng of the green-fluorescent protein modified with the

HA epitope (GFP-HA) was diluted in 200 μ l wash buffer, the stated amounts of anti-HA antibody were added and it was incubated for 1 h at 4°C in an overhead shaker. 25 μ l of a 50 % protein-G-Sepharose suspension was then added to the mixture and it was again incubated for 1 h as before. Proteins bound to the gel matrix via protein G were washed three times with 1 ml wash buffer and in each wash step the mixture was incubated for 2 min at 4°C as described above. The mixture was then centrifuged for 2 min in a bench centrifuge (15,000 rpm, RT) and the pellet was taken up in 10 ml 1 x Laemmli application buffer. The immunoprecipitated proteins were subsequently separated by denaturing gel electrophoresis (SDS polyacrylamide gel).

SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, transfer onto a nylon membrane and subsequent detection were carried out as described in example 3.1.

Result:

Compared to the clone 12CA5 (prior art) the clone 3F10 is able in the described experiment to precipitate the antigen used with a \geq 20-fold lower antibody quantity (Fig. 5).

INTERNATIONAL FORM

Boehringer Mannheim GmbH Sandhofer Str. 116

68305 Mannheim

RECEIPT IN THE CASE OF AN ORIGINAL DEPOSIT issued pursuant to Rule 7.1 by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY identified at the bottom of this page

I. IDENTIFICAT	TION OF THE MICROORGANISM						
Identification ref	ference given by the DEPOSITOR:	Accession number given by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY: DSM ACC2286					
II. SCIENTIFIC	DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DES	IGNATION					
The microorgani	sm identified under I. above was accompanied by:						
(() a scientific description () a proposed taxonomic designation (Mark with a cross where applicable).						
III. RECEIPT AI	ND ACCEPTANCE						
This International	Il Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified tinal deposit).	under 1. above, which was received by it on 1996-10-08					
IV. RECEIPT O	F REQUEST FOR CONVERSION						
The microorganisand a request to for conversion).	sm identified under I above was received by this International convert the original deposit to a deposit under the Budapest I	Depositary Authority on (date of original deposit) Treaty was received by it on (date of receipt of request					
V. INTERNATIO	ONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY						
MI	MZ-DEUTSCHE SAMMLUNG VON KROORGANISMEN UND ZELLKULTUREN GmbH	Signature(s) of person(s) having the power to represent the International Depositary Authority or of authorized official(s):					
	scheroder Weg 1b 18124 Braunschweig	0. Weils Date: 1996-10-18					

Form DSMZ-BP/4 (sole page) 0196

^{&#}x27; Where Rule 6.4 (d) applies, such date is the date on which the status of international depositary authority was acquired.

INTERNATIONAL FORM

Boehringer Mannheim GmbH Sandhofer Str. 116

68305 Mannheim

VIABILITY STATEMENT issued pursuant to Rule 10.2 by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY identified at the bottom of this page

I. DEPOSITOR	II. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM		
Name: Boehringer Mannheim GmbH Sandhofer Str. 116 Address: 68305 Mannheim	Accession number given by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY: DSM ACC2286 Date of the deposit or the transfer': 1996-10-08		
II. VIABILITY STATEMENT			
The viability of the microorganism identified under II above was tested on In that date, the said microorganism was (X) ³ viable () ¹ no longer viable	1996-10-09 ³ .		
V. CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE VIABILITY TEST HAS BEEN PI	ERFORMED ⁴		
/. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY			
Name: DSMZ-DEUTSCHE SAMMLUNG VON MIKROORGANISMEN UND ZELLKULTUREN GmbH Address: Mascheroder Weg 1b D-38124 Braunschweig	Signature(s) of person(s) having the power to represent the International Depositary Authority or of authorized official(s): Outlier 1996-10-18		

Indicate the date of original deposit or, where a new deposit or a transfer has been made, the most recent relevant date (date of the new deposit or date of the transfer).

Mark with a cross the applicable box.

In the cases referred to in Rule 10.2(a) (ii) and (iii), refer to the most recent viability test.

Fill in if the information has been requested and if the results of the test were negative.

Claims

- 1. Monoclonal antibodies against the epitope YPYDVPDYA which is derived from the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus, or fragments thereof, wherein they have an affinity of $> 10^8 \, \mathrm{M}^{-1}$.
- 2. Monoclonal antibodies as claimed in claim 1, wherein they have an affinity of $10^9 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$.
- 3. Monoclonal antibodies as claimed in one of the claims 1 or 2, wherein they are produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats where the Lou/C rats were immunized with a HA peptide.
- 4. Monoclonal antibodies as claimed in claim 3, wherein the immunization is carried out with a HA peptide coupled to keyhole limpet haemocyanin (KLH).
- 5. Monoclonal antibodies as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 4, wherein they are produced by the hybridoma R 3A12 deposited at the "Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen" under the No. DSM ACC2286 (08.10.1996).
- 6. Process for the production of monoclonal antibodies as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 5, wherein a HA peptide is synthesized and it is used to

immunize small mammals, the B lymphocytes are isolated from the spleen of the animals and fused with mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells, the clones that are formed which bind to a HA peptide and to a HA fusion protein are selected and the clones with a high affinity are selected from these and established as hybrid cell lines.

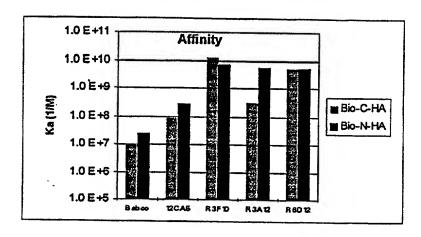
- 7. Process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the acetyl-YPYDVPDYAGSGSK (ε-biotinoyl) amide or biotinoyl-ε-Aca-SGSGYPYDVPDYA amide is used as the HA peptide.
- 8. Process as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein HAtagged glutathione-S-transferase is used as the HA fusion protein.
- 9. Use of monoclonal antibodies as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 5, wherein they are used to detect and isolate native haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus, modified haemagglutinin or HA fusion proteins.

Abstract

The invention concerns monoclonal antibodies against the epitope YPYDVPDYA which is derived from the haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus and are suitable for the detection and isolation of native haemagglutinin of the human influenza virus, of modified haemagglutinin or of haemagglutinin fusion proteins and have an affinity of $> 10^8 \, \text{M}^{-1}$, in particular of $10^9 \, \text{to} \, 10^{10} \, \text{M}^{-1}$.

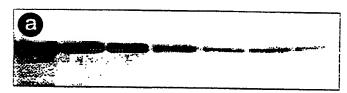
PCT/EP97/05783

Figure 1

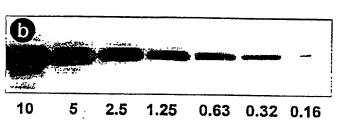


PCT/EP97/05783

12CA5 [1.0 μg/ml]

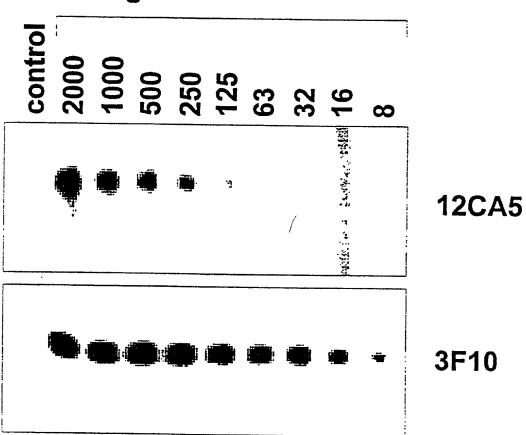


3F10 [0.1 μg/ml]



ng GST-HA



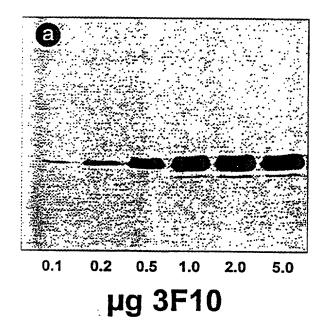


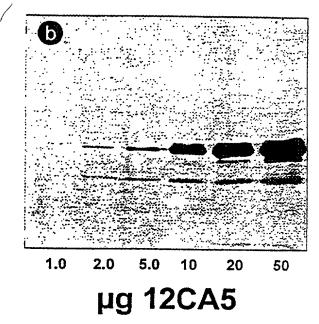
Anti-HA-Peroxidase (3F10)

Anti-HA-Peroxidase (12CA5))

Figure 5

5/5





COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is for a national stage of PCT application serial no. PCT/EP97/05783, filed October 20, 1997.

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

TITLE OF INVENTION

MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES AGAINST THE EPITOPE YPYDVPDYA, A PROCESS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION AND THEIR USE

SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

The specification of which was filed on April 20, 1999, as U.S. Application Serial No. 09/284,787.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d))

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international

Such applications have been filed as follows.

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(S) UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 120

I hereby claim the benefit, under Title 35, United States Code, § 120, of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 and that is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, that occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application. (37 CFR 1.63(e)).

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status (ch			
U.S. JU.S. FILING DATE		Patented	Pending	ng Abandoned	
PCT APPLICATION THE U.S.	DESIGNATING				
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. APPLICATI ON NOS. ASSIGNED (If any)			
PCT/EP97/05783	20 October 1997	1			

35 USC § 119 PRIORITY CLAIM, IF ANY, FOR ABOVE LISTED U.S./PCT APPLICATIONS

ABOVE APPLICATION NO.	DETAILS OF FOREIGN APPLICATION FROM WHICH PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC § 119				
	Country and Application No.	Date of filing (day, month, year)	Date of issue (day, month, year)		
PCT/EP97/05783	Germany - 196 43 314.2	21 October 1996			

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

PCT/EP97/05783, filed 20 October 1997 German Patent Application Serial No. 196 43 314.2, filed 21 October 1996

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.



Marilyn L. Amick D. Michael Young Brent A. Harris Richard T. Knauer Registration Number 30,444
Registration Number 33,819
Registration Number 39,215
Registration Number 35,575

AUTHORIZATION OF ATTORNEY(S) TO ACCEPT AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVE

The undersigned to this declaration and power of practitioner hereby authorizes the U.S. practitioner(s) named herein to accept and follow instructions from

Roche Diagnostics Corporation 9115 Hague Road Indianapolis, IN 46250-0457

as to any actions to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. practitioner(s) and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. practitioner(s) will be so notified by the undersigned.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

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Marilyn L. Amick (317) 576-7561

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)

DEX

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Inventor	¹s	signature

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